



Kentucky Personnel Cabinet Office of the Secretary

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Kentucky state government named one of America's best adoption-friendly workplaces

FRANKFORT, Ky. (Sept. 19, 2011) – For the fifth year in a row, Kentucky state government is ranked among the Best Adoption-Friendly Workplaces in America. The list released today by the Dave Thomas Foundation for Adoption, ranks Kentucky number one in the government industry category, tied with the City of Carmel, Indiana.

Tim Longmeyer, Secretary of the Kentucky Personnel Cabinet, which administers the program, said, “We are honored to have been chosen again this year as one of the best adoption-friendly workplaces in America. The benefit provides assistance to those who are extending their hearts and lives to a child or children in need.”

Joe Tucker, a Transportation Cabinet employee and a member of the Army Reserves, and his wife Sam adopted Adrienne as a newborn. “The staff in the Personnel Cabinet was very helpful in answering all of our questions and making sure that we had all the proper paperwork for the Adoption Benefit. We are very thankful that the state of Kentucky realizes the importance of adoption and is willing to assist with the financial burden that adoptive families experience. Thank you for helping us to become a forever family,” Sam said.

Today, more than 107,000 children are available for adoption in U.S. foster care. Each year, nearly 26,000 of these youth will end up leaving the system when they turn 18 without a family. The list helps the Foundation increase foster care adoption awareness while celebrating those businesses that support adoptive families.

Rankings for the Best Adoption-Friendly Workplaces are determined by an analysis of a company's adoption benefits available to employees, such as financial reimbursement and paid leave. The Foundation compiled the results from its annual survey of U.S. employers and partnered with *Employee Benefit News*, a SourceMedia publication, to announce this year's winners.

To view all of the honorees, visit www.DaveThomasFoundation.org. To find more information about the Commonwealth's adoption benefit, and to view testimonials of recipients, visit <http://personnel.ky.gov/emprel/adoption/>.

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